(a) the reason for removing the Diwan Peishkar from the Standing Finance Committee and appointing, instead of the Diwan Peishkar, the Secretary to the Legislative Council, and

(b) whether the Secretary to the Legislative Council should be a member of all Committees appointed by the Government, and if so, to give the reason for it ?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

(a) Government thought that the cost and sacrifice to other work of the Diwan Peishkar could be avoided by the appointment of the Secretary to the Legislative Council as an official member of the Standing Finance Committee, to which he is well-fitted.

(b) No hard and fast rule can be laid down. Government will act according to the circumstances of each case.

Police Training at Vellore.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

152. Will the Government be pleased to inform

(a) How many graduates are now in the Police force at present ;

(b) the date on which the suggestion to select Mr. P. Neelakandha Menon was first before the Government;

(c) the dates on which the suggestion for the selection of Messrs. A. L. Devassi and Ankarath Ravunni Mannadiar was first before the Government;

(d) whether Messrs. Neelakandha Menon, Devassi and Mannadiar were applicants for appointments in the Police Department; and if so, the date of their respective applications ?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

(a) Six.

(b) 18th March 1925.

(c) 18th March 1925 and 9th September 1925 respectively.

(d) No.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

153. (a) Will the Government be pleased to inform whether the Commissioner of Police was consulted with reference to the selection of the above-named gentlemen for the Police training ;

(b) Whether there are no men already in the Police service who could have been selected for such training ;

(c) Whether the Government invited applications for those posts by notification in the Gazette and notices in newspapers

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or in any other manner given wide publicity of the intentions of the Government?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

(a) No.

(b) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 44 (iii and iv) of the Vrischigam sitting.

(c) The member is referred to the answer to the last part of question No. 11 of the Vrischigam sitting.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

May I know why the Police Commissioner was not consulted? Sir, is it the rule in the Government service that the Head of the Department is not generally consulted?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

He is not always consulted.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

My supplementary question is whether there is a rule for the guidance of the Government that, when an appointment is made in a particular department, the Head of the Department is usually consulted.

PRESIDENT.

There is no hard and fast rule.

Mr. A. B. SALEM

Is he usually consulted?

PRESIDENT.

May or may not.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

The answer to question (b) is the answer given to question 44 in the Vrischigam session. There it is stated that there are no young suitable graduates in the department to be selected. That is to say there are no young suitable graduates in the department to be selected. I ask: What is the meaning of the word "suitable"?

PRESIDENT.

What is the ordinary meaning?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

These are not jokes. The persons selected are also graduates. The question is whether the men in the department have that qualification or have not that qualification. Do you want History graduates, Science graduates, Biology graduates, first class men, second class men? How were they unsuitable? How were they differentiated from those selected?

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PRESIDENT.

What were the attributes of the selected candidates?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

What were the attributes of the selected candidates and what was the extra qualification?

PRESIDENT.

What meaning do you give to the word "suitable?"

Mr. SHEIK ABDUL QADIR SAHIB BAHADUR.

Intelligence, physical fitness and other good qualities that go to make a good Police officer.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Am I to understand that people in the service have neither intelligence nor physical fitness?

Mr. SHEIK ABDUL QADIR SAHIB BAHADUR.

Not sufficient to carry on the work efficiently.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Does it mean that he is having inefficient men? (*Laughter.*)

PRESIDENT.

There is no such meaning in that. It is only a question of comparative merit.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

The persons selected were of more intelligence and had more physical fitness. How was it tested? The answer to the previous question was that the Police Commissioner was not consulted. How can he say that the men selected were more suitable than the others?

PRESIDENT.

Of course, he must have known these candidates.

Mr. SHEIK ABDUL QADIR SAHIB BAHADUR.

I had no information.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

That information may be supplied. He was not consulted, and he was not aware.

PRESIDENT.

The Government made the selection, and they were satisfied that it was the best selection.

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

The Police Commissioner is not aware of the best men. The Government made the best selection possible.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

May I know what are the qualifications that go to make a good Police officer ?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

Intelligence, physical fitness and moral character should be taken as qualities which go to make a good Police officer.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

I wish to know whether the Diwan selected, the Secretary selected, the Diwan Peishkar selected, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer selected or the Agricultural Superintendent, or the Government selected.

PRESIDENT.

The Government selected, and the Government assumed responsibility for the selection.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

I ask only for information.

PRESIDENT.

There the question must stop. The answer cannot be further elaborated.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Refer to question 11 of the Vrischigam sitting, page 21, Vol. II, Part I.

Now, I ask, Sir, how the selection was made. I ask whether there were more candidates for the selection before the eye of the Government, or whether the Government selected those three alone. It is known that no applications have been invited. The Police Commissioner has not been consulted, and the Government is not prepared to answer. Then who else was consulted?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

There were only two graduates who were picked and chosen. The selection was made by the Government under proper enquiries, and the Diwan also made personal enquiries.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

The question is whether there were half a dozen men before the Government and whether the Government perpetrated a jobbery in selecting these two only.

PRESIDENT.

Our State is a small one, and it is easy to make a selection, and I made the selection of Mr. P. Neelakandha Menon who was thought to be the proper person. In the case of Mr. Ankarath

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Mannadiar, I happened to have a look at him, and I was favourably impressed, and so he was selected.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

If you were favourably impressed, then you may do so.

PRESIDENT.

Many see the Diwan, and so I had an opportunity to make the selection.

Mr. A. B SALEM.

The question is: How did you select? It is only a question of fact.

PRESIDENT.

No elaborate processes of inviting applications, etc., were gone through. The Government wanted to choose three candidates. There was already one, Mr. Neelakandha Menon, in the service. He was found qualified and he was chosen. Mr. A. L. Devassi, B. A., B. L., who was practising in Trichur as a Vakil, impressed the Government favourably, and hence he was selected. The third also impressed the Government favourably. Others might have come and might have made greater impressions, but the Government did not invite candidates for the purpose of selection.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

I have no quarrel with the Government.

PRESIDENT.

What then should be done?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Were I the Diwan of Cochin, I would have invited applications from duly qualified persons, as it is done in the Board of Revenue. A personal scrutiny would have been made, and the candidates would have been marched out before me previous to the selection. That could have been done. The question is whether any such process was gone through in this case. The candidates could have been selected from the department itself. It is why I asked this question, and my object in putting this question was merely to establish that no jobbery should be perpetuated in the Government.

PRESIDENT.

You use strong words. You should be careful in using the word "jobbery" and attributing to the Government jobbery, as if you think that jobbery has been perpetuated by the Government.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

If you say I should withdraw it, I shall withdraw.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT.

I cannot allow that.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Then I withdraw that, Sir.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL.

Under Rule 17 no discussion shall be permitted upon a question.

PRESIDENT.

No discussion can be permitted

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

154. Will the Government be pleased to inform the emergent nature of the cases for the training in the Police School of these newly selected gentlemen that made them to authorise the expenditure thereof without placing their proposals before this House for the appropriation of revenue in the form of a demand for an extra grant?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

At the time of the budget session the question of sending the men was under correspondence. As the classes opened during the middle of Thulam 1101, the matter could not be postponed for the consideration of the Council to Vrischigam. The items of expenditure to be incurred for the training are also mostly non-votable.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

155. Will the Government be pleased to further inform their reasons for not taking this House into their confidence, and for not consulting them with reference to these new appointments, and also their reasons for not making any mention of these in the budget for 1101 (1925—26)?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

The member is referred to the answer to the question No. 154.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

I have a supplementary question. I ask: What were the proposals before the Government and what were the reasons of the Government for not taking into their confidence this Council? Merely referring me to the answer to question No. 154 is not enough.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

The one hour allotted under the rules for Questions and Answers is over. Shall we go on with Questions and Answers?

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